

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 525 - SB 924

April 7, 2021

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to notify each local education agency (LEA) when the Office of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) publishes a report relative to kindergarten through 12 (K-12) education, for dissemination to all the LEA's licensed personnel.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (005481, 006826):** Amendment 005481 deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill. Authorizes the Commissioner of DOE to issue an endorsement exemption or temporary permit to teach any course or subject area, except for special education courses for the 2021-22 school year, upon the request of a director of schools or public charter school, if the director can certify to the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) that the LEA or public charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher for the subject area. Establishes that an exemption or temporary permit is only valid for the 2021-22 school year.

Amendment 006826 adds language to Amendment 005481 to establish that the governing body for an LEA, public charter school, or private school has the sole authority to set mask and social distancing policies for their respective schools for the 2021-2022 school year.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Authorizing the issuance of exemptions and temporary permits for the 2021-22 school year will not affect processes or procedures for DOE and can be accomplished within existing resources. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- Establishing the authority to set mask and social distancing policies for schools will not affect the operations of a governing body for an LEA, public charter school, or private school. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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